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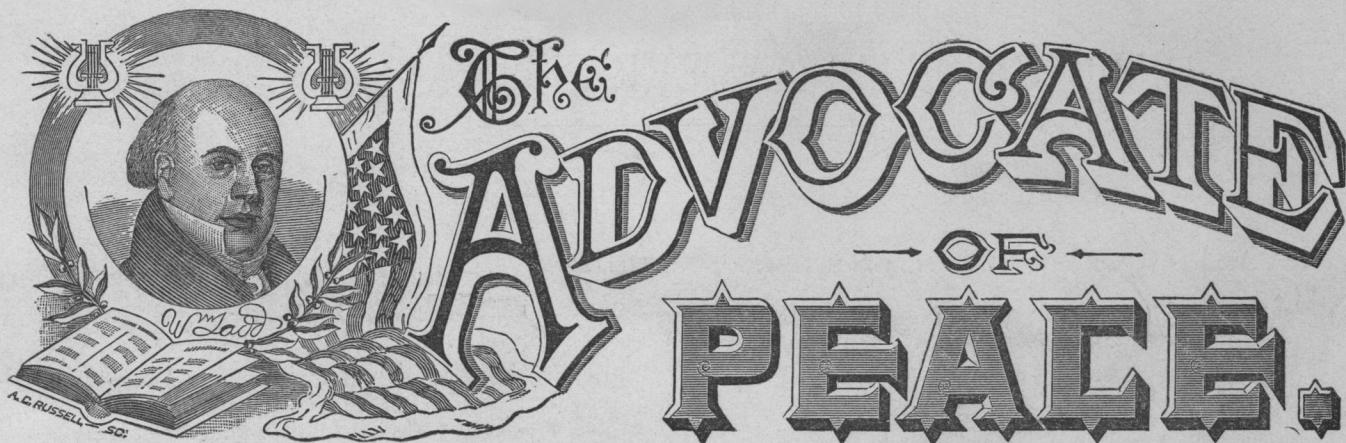
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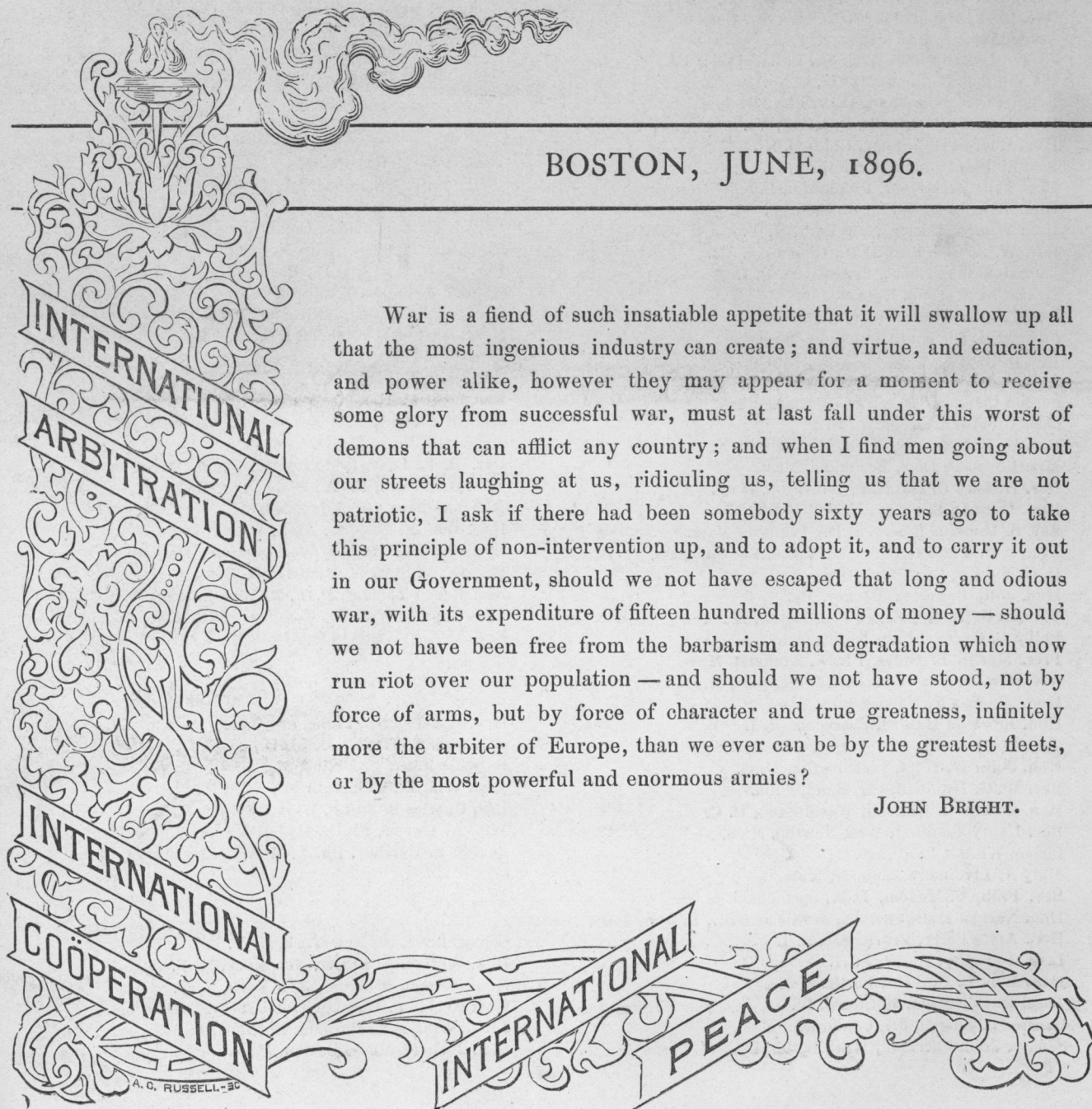
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BOSTON, JUNE, 1896.

War is a fiend of such insatiable appetite that it will swallow up all that the most ingenious industry can create; and virtue, and education, and power alike, however they may appear for a moment to receive some glory from successful war, must at last fall under this worst of demons that can afflict any country; and when I find men going about our streets laughing at us, ridiculing us, telling us that we are not patriotic, I ask if there had been somebody sixty years ago to take this principle of non-intervention up, and to adopt it, and to carry it out in our Government, should we not have escaped that long and odious war, with its expenditure of fifteen hundred millions of money — should we not have been free from the barbarism and degradation which now run riot over our population — and should we not have stood, not by force of arms, but by force of character and true greatness, infinitely more the arbiter of Europe, than we ever can be by the greatest fleets, or by the most powerful and enormous armies?

JOHN BRIGHT.



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ARTICLE I. This Society shall be designated the "AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY."

ART. II. This Society, being founded on the principle that all war is contrary to the spirit of the gospel, shall have for its object to illustrate the inconsistency of war with Christianity, to show its baleful influence on all the great interests of mankind, and to devise means for insuring universal and permanent peace.

ART. III. Persons of every Christian denomination desirous of promoting peace on earth, and good-will towards men, may become members of this Society.

ART. IV. Every annual subscriber of two dollars shall be a member of this Society.

ART. V. The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall constitute any person a Life-member.

ART. VI. The chairman of each corresponding committee, the officers and delegates of every auxiliary contributing to the funds of this Society, and every minister of the gospel who preaches once a year on the subject of peace, and takes up a collection in

behalf of the cause, shall be entitled to the privileges of regular members.

ART. VII. All contributors shall be entitled within the year to one-half the amount of their contributions in the publications of the Society.

ART. VIII. The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor and a Board of Directors, consisting of not less than twenty members of the Society, including the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of the Board. All Officers shall hold their offices until their successors are appointed, and the Board of Directors shall have power to fill vacancies in any office of the Society. There shall be an Executive Committee of seven, consisting of the President, Secretary and five Directors to be chosen by the Board, which Committee shall, subject to the Board of Directors, have the entire control of the executive and financial affairs of the Society. Meetings of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee may be called by the President, the Secretary or two members of such body. The Society or the Board of Directors may invite persons of well known legal ability to act as Honorary Counsel.

ART. IX. The Society shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Board of Directors may appoint, to receive their own and the Treasurer's report, to choose officers, and transact such other business as may come before them.

ART. X. The object of this Society shall never be changed; but the constitution may in other respects be altered, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, or of any ten members of the Society, by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting.

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QUESTIONS OF TERRITORY AND HONOR.

Many of those who favor, to a certain extent, the application of the method of arbitration to the settlement of international difficulties are careful to say that of course there are certain questions which can not be submitted to this method of adjustment. Among these questions are always mentioned that of the national existence, often those involving the honor of the nation, and occasionally one of these skeptical friends goes so far as to include questions of serious disturbance of territory. President Angell of Michigan University, in his address at the Washington Conference, went nearly this far.

We cannot understand by what course of reasoning this position is reached, unless by serious disturbance of territory is meant some actual attack upon the integrity of the national domain, conceded by all to be such. In this case nobody claims that arbitration can be applied.

Two nations which have the disposition to make an attempt upon the integrity of each other's domain are not yet on a plane where arbitration can even be talked of between them. All questions between them are excluded

from its decision, not those of territorial limits only. The same is largely true where only one of the nations has this aggressive disposition.

But certainly between two nations capable of entering honestly into arbitral arrangements, all questions of disputed territory, no matter of how great area, which has not become a fixed part of one or the other by actual demarkation, made jointly by the two contiguous nations, can be adjusted by arbitration, in fact, can be fairly determined in no other way.

To say that the question of the national existence and independence can not be turned over to arbitration is to say nothing, for no such question can ever arise between two nations which have arrived at the arbitral stage of civilization.

Those who reserve questions of honor as incapable of being arbitrated never specify any such questions. They leave the whole matter in a state of vague sentimentalism which it is very difficult to treat rationally. Did it never occur to them that they are using exactly the duelist's arguments, so far as the duelist reasons at all? If there are any questions of honor between two nations sufficiently civilized to arbitrate their differences which cannot be submitted to this mode of treatment, then to that extent honor is something which cannot be dealt with on the ground of reason, justice and law, but belongs to the realm and the dictates of self-determination and the arbitrament of brute force. This irrational, ancient conception of honor unfortunately still lingers, even where the duel is outlawed, and perverts the view of many good men as to the number and kind of international questions with which arbitration may deal. If all false notions of honor were eradicated, and all imaginary cases of insulted honor were eliminated, there would be little trouble with what was left.

National honor of every kind, in the case of two such nations as the United States and Great Britain, would be entirely safe in the hands of a tribunal of international law, just as personal honor of every kind is safe in the common courts of law. If not safe there, then it would be safe nowhere. For real honor can be determined only at the bar where truth and justice preside.